

AMENDED CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) A medical device comprising ~~at least two parts~~ a first part and a second part rotatable with respect to one another about a pivot and having with at least one a contact area therebetween at the pivot, said medical device being made up of at least one material, said medical device comprising a plurality of projections on at least one of the first part and second part at the contact area, wherein said projections ~~and said at least one material~~ are adapted to allow a fluid to flow such that, when fluid is applied thereto, more fluid flows around said projections whereby to enhance cleaning and sterilization processes which employ the fluid than through said at least one material of said medical device.
2. (Cancelled) The medical device of claim 1, wherein at least one of the at least two parts is movable.
3. (Cancelled) The medical device of claim 2, wherein said at least one of the at least two parts is movable around a pivot.
4. (Original) The medical device of claim 1, wherein the medical device is reusable or disposable.
5. (Cancelled) The medical device of claim 1, wherein the medical device comprises a part selected from the group consisting of a joint, a hinge, a box lock, and a mated surface.
6. (Original) The medical device of claim 1, wherein the medical device is selected from the group consisting of a scissors, a forceps, a holder, a hemostat, and a rongeur.
7. (Currently Amended) A medical device comprising at least two parts with at least one contact area therebetween, said medical device being made up of at least one material, said medical device comprising a plurality of projections on at least one contact area, wherein said projections and said at least one material are adapted such that, when fluid is applied thereto, more fluid flows around said projections than through said at least one material of said medical device and ~~The medical device of claim 1,~~ wherein said medical device comprises a connector housing or a luer lock.

8. (Original) The medical device of claim 1, wherein said at least one material is a metal or a non-metal.

9. (Original) The medical device of claim 8, wherein said metal is selected from the group consisting of stainless steel, titanium alloy, aluminum alloy, and nickel-chromium alloy.

10. (Original) The medical device of claim 8, wherein said non-metal is selected from the group consisting of polytetrafluoroethylene, nylon, polyolefin, liquid crystal polymer, polyester, silicon rubber, and styrenic thermoplastic.

11. (Cancelled) The medical device of claim 1, wherein said fluid is a fluid selected from the group consisting of a cleaning fluid, a rinsing fluid, a scrubbing fluid, and a germicide.

12. (Cancelled) The medical device of claim 11, wherein said germicide comprises at least one liquid, gas, or vapor disinfectant or sterilant.

13. (Currently Amended) A medical device comprising at least two parts with at least one contact area therebetween, said medical device being made up of at least one material, said medical device comprising a plurality of projections on at least one contact area, wherein said projections and said at least one material are adapted such that, when fluid is applied thereto, more fluid flows around said projections than through said at least one material of said medical device and ~~The medical device of claim 1,~~ wherein said plurality of projections are located randomly on said contact area.

14. (Original) The medical device of claim 1, wherein said plurality of projections are located on said contact area in a regular pattern.

15. (Original) The medical device of claim 1, wherein said plurality of projections have a shape selected from the group consisting of points, lines, and a combination of points and lines.

16. (Currently Amended) A method of cleaning, rinsing, scrubbing, disinfecting, or sterilizing a medical device having a first part and a second part rotatable with respect to one

~~another about a pivot and having a contact area therebetween at the pivot at least two parts, wherein there is at least one contact area between the at least two parts, and wherein said at least one contact area is made of at least one material, said method comprising: providing a plurality of projections on the entire at least one of the first part and second part at the contact area; contacting said medical device at the contact area with a fluid selected from the group consisting of a cleaning fluid, a rinsing fluid, a scrubbing fluid, a disinfecting fluid, and a sterilizing fluid; wherein said projections and said at least one material are adapted such that more fluid flows around said projections than through said at least one material; and cleaning, rinsing, scrubbing, disinfecting, or sterilizing said medical device.~~

17. (Original) The method of claim 16, further comprising moving at least one of said at least two parts of said medical device during said cleaning, rinsing, scrubbing, or sterilizing said medical device.

18. (Original) The method of claim 16, further comprising contacting said medical device with said fluid in a vessel.

19. (Original) The method of claim 18, further comprising circulating said fluid in said vessel.

20. (Original) The method of claim 18, further comprising reducing a pressure in said vessel, thereby vaporizing said fluid.

21. (New) A medical device according to claim 1 having the projections on both the first part and the second part at the contact area.

22. (New) A medical device according to claim 1 having the projections only on the first part.

23. (New) A medical device according to claim 1 wherein the projections are formed by a series of grooves.

24. (New) A medical device according to claim 23 wherein the grooves are parallel to each other.

25. (New) A medical device according to claim 23 wherein the grooves are straight.

26. (New) A medical device according to claim 23 wherein both the first part and the second part carry the grooves and wherein the grooves on the first part are in registry with the grooves on the second part.

27. (New) A method according to claim 16 wherein the fluid cleans the first part and the second part at the contact area.

28. (New) A method according to claim 16 wherein the fluid disinfects or sterilizes the first part and the second part at the contact area.